

10/698,336
112-0128US**REMARKS**

The Office Action rejected claims 1 – 3, 5 – 6, 15 – 18 and 20 under §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. RE32,254 to Dragoon.

The claims, as amended, require the light reflector to have a segmented top with “an interior surface and an exterior surface wherein each segment of the interior surface is generally planar and connected to the adjacent segment...” The LED package described in Dragoon does not have a top with a generally planar, segmented interior surface. Rather, Dragoon describes a top having an interior surface that is a section of a cylinder [see “second passage 30” in Figure 1].

The claims, as amended, also require the light reflector to have a plurality of interior partitions connected to the top and back of the reflector. The Office Action takes the position that an interior surface is a “wall.” Accordingly, the claims have been amended to clarify the fact that the elements of Applicant’s invention “defining a plurality of chambers open on their bottom surface and front surface” are partitions.

Dragoon does not disclose a light reflector having “a plurality of interior partitions defining chambers open on their bottom surface and front surface” as required by the claims.

The Office Action cites Figures 4 and 5 of Dragoon for providing a plurality of interior walls. However, neither of these figures shows any interior walls and no suggestion of interior walls is made in the written description of Dragoon. Thus, Dragoon does not anticipate Applicant’s claimed invention.

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The Office Action rejected claims 4, 10 – 13 and 19 under §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dragoon in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,008,658 to Russay et al.

There is no teaching, suggestion or motivation to combine the teachings of Dragoon and Russay. The LED package of Dragoon channels the light from an LED 12 to a single “radiating surface” 36. In contrast, Russay describes a light housing designed to combine the light from a plurality of LEDs in order to backlight an LCD display without “hot spots.” “A still further object of the present invention is to provide an LCD/LED display arrangement wherein virtually all of the light produced by a plurality of LEDs is projected onto the rear surface of an LCD display in providing efficient backlighting therefor.” [col. 2; lines 11-15] Applicant’s invention is specifically directed to preventing the light from adjacent LEDs from bleeding over into the adjoining indicators on an indicator panel. Accordingly, one skilled in the art would not be led to combine the teachings of Dragoon with those of Russay to reach Applicant’s invention.

The Office Action rejected claims 7 – 9 under §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dragoon.

Each of claims 7 – 9 requires a plurality of interior partitions defining a plurality of chambers open on their bottom surface and front surface. There is no teaching or suggestion in Dragoon of a light reflector having a plurality of interior partitions defining a plurality of chambers open on their bottom surface and front surface.

The Office Action rejected claim 14 under §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dragoon in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,790,041 to Lee.

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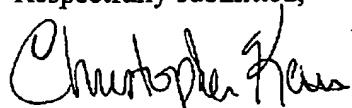
Lee describes a jack for mating with a plug. The configuration of the jack is dictated by the configuration of the plug. For example, the illustrated embodiments in Lee are RJ45 jacks. This is a common jack used for network connections and its size and shape are specified in an industry standard. Thus, one is not free to modify the configuration of the plug by, for example, providing a segmented top portion comprised of generally planar segments as required by claim 14. Paragraph 14 of the Office Action does not cite any particular teaching of Lee. Rather, it states: "It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Dragoon and use the chassis as taught by applicant in order to provide a secure housing for the PCB and its components and a optimum use/viewing of an internally-mount indicator LED." Clarification is requested.

All of the pending claims require "a plurality of interior partitions defining a plurality of chambers open on their bottom surface and front surface said interior walls connected on their top portion to the segmented top and connected on their rear portion to the back wall and having their bottom portions generally coplanar with the bottom of the back wall." No such feature is described or suggested in any of the references cited in the Office Action.

For the above-stated reasons, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance over the references cited in the Office Action. Reconsideration of the rejection is requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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